

In the Claims:

Amend claims 7 and 21, as follows:

7. (Currently Amended) Surgical apparatus comprising an elongated cannula further comprising:

a first lumen extending within the cannula between proximal and distal ends thereof for housing an endoscope therein;

a transparent tip disposed at the distal end of the first lumen for ~~providing~~ performing tissue dissection and providing endoscopic visualization therethrough;

a second lumen eccentric the first lumen and having an open distal end positioned intermediate the proximal and distal ends of the first lumen for housing a surgical instrument therein to protrude from the open distal end for performing surgical procedures on tissue viewed through the transparent tip; and

a flexible and resilient hood having an open distal end and an open proximal end that is coupled to the distal end of the second lumen for recurring operation in a tapered transition orientation between distal and proximal ends thereof responsive to a surgical instrument being retracted within the second lumen proximally from the transparent tip, and in an expanded orientation in response to extension through the distal end

thereof of a surgical instrument projecting forward from the open distal end of the second lumen and through the open distal end of the hood.

13. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein the hood includes a tapered transition contour between distal and proximal ends thereof near the location along the cannula at which the first lumen extends beyond the open distal end of the second lumen to taper the sectional area of the cannula and reduce axial force required to advance the cannula through tissue.

17. (Withdrawn) A surgical procedure using a multi-lumen cannula including a first lumen extending there through between proximal and distal ends thereof and having a transparent tapered tip at the distal end of the first lumen for receiving an endoscope therein, and including a second lumen extending for receiving a surgical instrument therein, the procedure comprising:

advancing the cannula to dissect tissue with the transparent tapered tip
under endoscopic visualization through the transparent tip;
selectively extending the surgical instrument out of the second lumen
forward of the cannula; and
performing the surgical procedure using the surgical instrument under
endoscopic visualization through the transparent tapered tip.

18. (Withdrawn) The procedure of claim 17 wherein the surgical tool is surgical scissors, and performing the surgical procedure comprises transecting side branches of a saphenous vein.

19. (Withdrawn) The procedure of claim 18 further comprising the steps of:

removing the scissors from the second lumen of the cannula;

inserting a cradled retractor into the second lumen of the cannula;

extending the retractor from the second lumen forward of the cannula

to cradle the vein; and

advancing the retractor along the vein under endoscopic visualization

through the transparent tip to ensure that side branches of the

vein have been transected.

20. (Withdrawn) A method of harvesting veins using a multi-lumen cannula in which a first lumen houses an endoscope and has a transparent tip and a second lumen houses a surgical scissors comprising:

advancing the cannula along a vein under endoscopic visualization;

dissecting tissue responsive to advancing the cannula with the

transparent tip;

responsive to viewing a sidebranch requiring transection, extending

the surgical scissors out of the cannula; and

transecting the sidebranch.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 7 in which the hood is eccentrically disposed relative to an elongated axis of the first lumen within the cannula near the distal end thereof substantially in alignment with the second lumen.